

Wilson (SC) Woolsey Wynn
Wolf Wu Young (AK)

NAYS—18

Abercrombie McCollum Otter
Filner McDermott Paul
Grijalva Miller, George Rahall
Kucinich Moran (VA) Stark
Lee Oberstar Turner (TX)
Lofgren Obey Waters

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—4

Becerra Sabo
Israel Watt

NOT VOTING—11

Carson (IN) Hoeffel Majette
Collins Holden Thompson (MS)
Deutsch Isakson Young (FL)
Greenwood Jones (NC)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Two minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1203

Mr. OBEY changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON H.R. 4837, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

Mr. KNOLLENBERG, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-607) on the bill (H.R. 4837) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4818 and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 715 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 4818.

The Chair designates the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY) as chairman of the Committee of the Whole, and requests the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY) to assume the chair temporarily.

□ 1203

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 4818) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes, with Mr. TERRY (Chairman pro tempore) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE).

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to present to the House today the funding recommendations of the Committee on Appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs. The bill provides important funding for programs designed to support the global war on terrorism, the battle against HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, and to support the national interests of the United States. In the wake of September 11, 2001, such funding for our critical friends and allies is more important than ever.

The committee recommends a total of \$19,385,645,000 in new discretionary budget authority for fiscal year 2005. This represents a reduction of \$1.932 billion from the President's budget request. On the other hand, the bill before us is \$1.905 billion above the fiscal year 2004 enacted level when we exclude the supplemental appropriations. If supplemental appropriations are included, the recommendation represents a decrease of \$19.287 billion over the 2004 level.

Having gotten those numbers out of the way, let me just say it is important that we know that this bill was developed in a bipartisan way, and I want to pay special tribute and give credit to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY), my ranking minority member, for the fine work that she has done on this bill and for engaging in a process that resulted in basic agreement on the components of this package, even if funding compromises happen to be found on both sides. Mr. Chairman, I believe this is the way the House of Representatives ought to work, and I think the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) and I have worked in a bipartisan fashion.

In preparing this legislation, we have three overriding priorities: first, sup-

porting our allies on the war on terrorism; second, responding to the global HIV/AIDS pandemic; and, third, supporting innovative approaches to foreign assistance through the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

Let me summarize how this recommendation responds to those challenges. First, the President's budget request included important military assistance and counternarcotics increases for our allies in the global war on terrorism. That includes an increase of \$350 million to equip the new Afghan National Army; an increase of \$90 million for law enforcement and counternarcotics programs in Afghanistan; a new base program of \$300 million for military assistance for Pakistan as they assist us in hunting terrorists along the Afghan border; an increase of \$46 million for a total of \$66 million for Poland, a major ally in Operation Iraqi Freedom; and an increase of \$73 million, for a total of \$2.22 billion for the State of Israel, which is our closest ally in the Middle East.

The committee recommendation includes full funding for these increases both through new budget authority and, in the case of Pakistan, use of \$150 million of transfer authority.

The second priority in the President's budget request is one that we also met with an increase of \$593 million to combat HIV/AIDS and related diseases, for a total of \$2.2 billion. The committee recommendation fully meets that funding level. It includes a grant of \$400 million for the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, subject to conditions that improve the fund's accountability and efficiency. Together with the money that we expect that the House Labor Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee will include, that will mean over \$2.8 billion will be available for HIV/AIDS programs around the world in fiscal year 2005.

The Global AIDS Initiative is making treatment and care available to a record number of people affected by the disease. In 2003, only 50,000 people in the developing world had access to the drugs that dramatically reduced the impact of AIDS and extend life for years. By next summer, 200,000 people will have access to these drugs; and over the next several years, millions of infected people will be treated through the use of the Nevirapine for pregnant women.

The third priority, of course, in the President's budget was a request for a \$1.5 billion increase for the Millennium Challenge Corporation, for a total of \$2.5 billion. Mr. Chairman, given our allocation, we could not recommend full funding for this initiative, important though it is and though I am very personally committed to it. However, to demonstrate our commitment to this important foreign assistance reform effort and to respond positively to